

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

PRESS RELEASE

NO 3

JANUARY 17/64

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED TODAY IN PARIS ON THE VISIT TO FRANCE OF PRIME MINISTER PEARSON:

AT THE INVITATION OF GEN DEGAULLE THE PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC, THE PRIME MINISTER OF CDA, MR LESTER PEARSON, PAID AN OFFICIAL VISITS TO FRANCE FROM JAN 15 TO 17. THE PRIME MINISTER WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MR PAUL MARTIN, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OF CDA.

2. GEN DE GAULLE AND MR PEARSON, TOGETHER WITH THE PRIME MINISTER OF FRANCE, MR POMPIDOU, AND THE TWO FOREIGN MINISTERS, MR PAUL MARTIN AND MR COUVE DE MURVILLE, HELD EXTENSIVE CONVERSATIONS IN THE CHARACTERISTIC ATMOSPHERE OF FRIENDSHIP AND CONFIDENCE WHICH EXISTS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

3. THEIR DISCUSSIONS INVOLVED A FULL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON MAJOR INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS, AS WELL AS ON DEFENCE QUESTIONS AFFECTING THE TWO COUNTRIES. THE PRESIDENT AND THE PRIME MINISTER EXAMINED THE PRESENT STATE OF AND LIKELY DEVELOPMENTS IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE WEST AND USSR AND OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES QUESTIONS WHICH ARE ALSO UNDER DISCUSSION IN THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE. THEY ALSO REVIEWED DEVELOPMENTS IN ASIA AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR THE WEST. THEY CONSIDERED THE SITUATION IN THE COUNTRIES OF SOUTHEAST ASIA, WHERE CDA HAS RESPONSIBILITIES AS A MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONS FOR SUPERVISION AND CONTROL.

4. FRANCO-CDN RELATIONS WERE EXAMINED IN THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION WHICH GUIDES THE TWO GOVTS. IT WAS RECOGNIZED ON BOTH SIDES THAT THE MUTUAL DESIRE TO INCREASE THE EXISTING LEVEL OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WOULD FIND EFFECTIVE EXPRESSION IN THE